

## Information Technology at Oldham Co. ATC Selected as 2002 KATEA Outstanding Program of the Year

Kenneth Gambill's information technology program at the Oldham Co. Area Technology Center was selected as the 2002 [Kentucky Applied Technology Education Association](#) (KATEA) Outstanding Program of the Year. KATEA recognizes an outstanding program and teacher in industrial education, technology education, and health and personal services during its annual conference each year.

Gambill started teaching in the program when it was established in 2000. Student growth has been tremendous with 70 students enrolled for the 2002-03 school year.

"The philosophy of the IT program at the Oldham County ATC is to provide professional as well as technical training. IT employers expect graduating 18 year-old students to have maturity levels commensurate with their technical skills and certifications. We endeavor to develop a high level of maturity and professionalism in our students by treating them as professionals and encouraging them to adjust their behavior accordingly," says Gambill. "Class rules and privileges are structured as much as possible to reflect that of the workplace with the relationship between the instructor and student approximating that of employer to employee. We have found that this approach also helps the typical student make the transition from remembering new material only long enough to pass a test - to understanding the material well enough for an effective application."

Gambill believes that becoming certified is extremely important to the employability and future success of our students.

"We can not require the students to sit for the certification examinations, but we do insist that our second year students become A+ certified prior to working as a paid co-op. While



**Kenneth Gambill - 2002 KATEA Information  
Technology Program of the Year recipient.**

becoming certified, the students provide computer support within the building or district as a part of their practicum," says Gambill.

"We are very proud of the recognition received by our information technology program. The award is a reflection of the hard work and dedication on the part of Mr. Ken Gambill and his students," says Michael Denny, Oldham Co. ATC principal.

